

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 SSM-03 TRSE-00 /084 W
-----180144Z 114714 /72

R 171357Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6291
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PFOR EG XF
SUBJ: SADAT INTERVIEW WITH BRITISH INDEPENDENT TELEVISION

1. INTERVIEW OF PRES SADAT BY BRITISH INDEPENDENT
TELEVISION (ITV), PUBLISHED IN LOCAL DAILIES JUNE 17,
BREAKS NO NEW GROUND BUT DOES SET FORTH GOE NEGOTIATING
POSITION FOR NEXT ROUND OF ME NEGOTIATIONS. AMONG HIGH-
LIGHTS:

2. STATE OF BELLIGERENCY. SADAT STRESSED THAT STATE OF
BELLIGERENCY CANNOT BE TERMINATED UNTIL ISRAEL HAS WITH-
DRAWN FRO ALL ARAB TERRITORY OCCUPIED IN 1967. ISRAELI
PROPOSAL TO WITHDRAW IN STAGES, WITH ADDITIONAL MEASURE
OF PEACE AT EACH STAGE, IS "IMPRACTICAL", SINCE STATE
OF BELLIGERENCY WILL REMAIN UNTIL LAST ISRAELI SOLDIER
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HAS DEPARTED ARAB SOIL.

3. OIL WEAPON. SADAT STATED THAT "WE WISH TO GIVE PEACE
ALL MOMENTUM NEEDED" AND REMARKED THAT, CONCERNING OIL
WEAPON, HE DOES NOT WISH TO THREATEN OR BE THREATENED.
IF PEACE NOT ATTAINED, ENTIRE QUESTION OF OIL WOULD BE
RECONSIDERED, BUT HIS WOULD NOT BE DECISION OF SADAT,

BUT RATHER OF ALL ARAB LEADERS.

4. DEMILITARIZED ZONES. GOE WILL NOT ACCEPT PRESENCE OF ISRAELI PATROLS IN ANY DEMILITARIZED ZONES CREATED BY PEACE AGREEMENT. ASKED WHETHER HE WOULD ACCEPT US TROOPS IN DEMILITARIZED ZONES, SADAT REPLIED THAT HE WOULD PREFER UN FORCES, ALTHOUGH MATTER OPEN TO NEGOTIATION.

5. ISRAELI WITHDRAWALS. SADAT NOTED THAT ARABS EXPECT ISRAELIS MUST WITHDRAW FROM "EVERY EACH" OF ARAB TERRITORY, INCLUDING "NEW JEWISH SETTLEMENTS" ON WEST BANK AND "ARAB JERUSALEM". SADAT STATED THAT "NOBODY IN ARAB WORLD, MOSLEM OR CHRISTIAN, NOR ANYONE IN ISLAMIC WORLD IN GENERAL CAN ACCEPT ISRAELI SOVEREIGNTY OVER ARAB PART OF JERUSALEM." PALESTINIAN STATE, COMPRISING WEST BANK, GAZA, AND CORRIDOR, MUST BE ESTABLISHED.

6. LIKUD VICTORY. SADAT DENIED THAT LIKUD VICTORY HAD UPSET GOE TACTICS OR STRATEGY CONCERNING GENEVA MEPC. VICTORY "MAY HAVE BEEN A SHOCK TO SOME PEOPLE, BUT NO SURPRISE" TO SADAT. THERE NO DIFFERENCE IN "FINAL GOALS" BETWEEN BEGIN, RABIN, MEIR, OR DAYAN. "ISRAELIS HAVE THEIR PROBLEMS, WE HAVE OURS, BUT WE ALL FACE RESPONSIBILITY OF MAINTAINING PEACE."

7. PALESTINIANS. ASKED WHETHER PLO WOULD ACCEPT ISRAEL IF LATTER RECOGNIZED THAT PALESTINIAN STATE TO BE ES-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TABLISHED IN WEST BANK/GAZA, SADAT NOTED THAT PALESTINIANS HAD NOT YET BEEN ASKED TO "SAY THEIR WORK". SADAT HAD URGED PRESIDENT CARTER TO BEGIN A DIALOGUE WITH PALESTINIANS, SO THAT AMERICANS COULD UNDERSTAND PALESTINIAN VIEWPOINT AND ARRANGE MATTERS BETWEEN PALESTINIANS AND ISRAELIS.

8. SEPARATE EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI AGREEMENT? SADAT DENIED THAT EGYPT WOULD SIGN AGREEMENT WITH ISRAEL AT GENEVA "AHEAD OF OTHER ARAB PARTIES". UNLESS ALL PARTIES CONCERNED ATTENDED GENEVA MEPC AND SIGNED FINAL PEACE AGREEMENT, THERE CAN BE NO PERMANENT PEACE.

9. U.S. -SOVIETS. SADAT STRESSED THAT US ONLY FORCE WHICH COULD BRING PRESSURE ON ISRAEL AND NOTED THAT AMERICAN INTERESTS LAY WITHIN ARAB WORLD, NOT WITH ISRAEL. SADAT DENIED THAT FONMIN FAHMY HAD GONE TO MOSCOW TO REBUILD EGYPT'S BRIDGES TO USSR IN CASE OF AMERICAN FAILURE ON NEGOTIATING FRONT. GOE NOT PLAYING

OFF US AGAINST SOVIETS, PRES ADDED.

10. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH SADAT REITERATED PREVIOUS STATEMENTS, INTERVIEW APPEARS TO BE ATTEMPT TO INFORM WEST FORCEFULLY THAT ARABS NOT ABOUT TO ADOPT CONCILIATORY STANCE IN FACE OF HARD-LINE STATEMENTS EMANATING FROM ISRAEL. SADAT DID NOT RAISE QUESTION OF RETURN TO WAR AND MAINTAINED HIS OFT-STRESSED OPTIMISM THAT NEGOTIATIONS AT GENEVA CAN SUCCEED (WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM US), BUT APPARENTLY WANTED TO DEMONSTRATE THAT ARABS, AS WELL AS LIKUD, INTEND TO BE TOUGH NEGOTIATORS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TELEVISION BROADCASTING, PRESS CONFERENCES, PEACE PLANS
Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 17-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977CAIRO10178
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770217-1091
Format: TEL
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770647/aaaabott.tel
Line Count: 128
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: ff0ffc7a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2117061
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SADAT INTERVIEW WITH BRITISH INDEPENDENT TELEVISION
TAGS: PFOR, EG, XF, (SADAT, ANWAR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ff0ffc7a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009